

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting
7:00 P.M.

April 19, 2011

POST SUMMARY MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Eldrin Bell, Vice-Chairman Wole Ralph, Commissioner Sonna Singleton, Commissioner Michael Edmondson, Commissioner Gail B. Hambrick, and Clerk Shelby D. Haywood.

1. Chairman Bell called the meeting to order.
2. Invocation was led by Associate Pastor Earnest Britt of New Macedonia Baptist Church in Riverdale, GA. Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Chairman Bell.
3. Amended the agenda by adding two (2) proclamations – “Clayton County Observes National Community Week 2011” and “Clayton County Honors Clayton State University Head Coach Dennis Cox”; holding item #8 (Resolution 2011-58 – Resolution authorizing Clayton County to adopt the Northwest Clayton Livable Centers Initiative, dated December 2004; to adopt the Northwest Clayton Livable Centers Initiative Five Year Update and Implementation Plan dated March 2011, as required by the Atlanta Regional Commission); and adding an Executive Session regarding personnel following the business meeting. The agenda was adopted, as amended, as all commissioners had copies before them. Vote unanimous.
4. Approved the April 12, 2011 Regular Business Meeting minutes. Vote unanimous.
5. PROCLAMATION: “Clayton County Observes National Community Week 2011” (presented by Chairman Bell to Dr. Evelyn Wynn-Dixon, Mayor of Riverdale).
6. PROCLAMATION: “Clayton County Honors Clayton State University Head Coach Dennis Cox” (presented by Commissioner Singleton).
7. PROCLAMATION: “Clayton County Congratulates Clayton State University’s Lady Lakers Basketball Team” (presented by Chairman Bell and Commissioner Singleton).

[NOTE: Group photos were taken of the above-listed proclamations. Clerk Haywood read the proclamations for the benefit of the audience.]

8. Rod Gray, Director of Central Services, presented the following items which resulted in these actions:

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1) Approved a request (RFB Pkg. #10-35; 10/13/2010) to amend the current Land Surveyor for Greenspace Acquisitions Annual Contract services, by adding more services for Topographical Surveys, as requested by Central Services. These various topographical surveys are required for SPLOST projects. The vendor is Point to Point Land Surveyors located in Locust Grove, Georgia, which the Board of Commissioners originally awarded the contract to on January 18, 2011. Point to Point Land Surveyors has agreed to accept the amendment. The motion carried 4-0. Vice-Chairman Ralph was absent during this vote.

2) Approved a request for SPLOST Construction Management-At-Risk Services for the Northeast Library (RFP Pkg. #10-45; 12/21/2010). The evaluation committee recommends awarding the contract to Hogan Construction Group, LLC located in Norcross, Georgia, with the highest score of 502.5 and the lowest maximum construction cost of \$209,480.00. Hogan also submitted the lowest construction fee of 2.49%. The motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Hambrick opposed.

After the evaluation process was completed and before the evaluation committee's recommendation was disclosed, all firms were supplied with a detailed sample contract for the project and asked to submit any necessary edits to the County for consideration. Hogan Construction was the only firm to state in writing that no revisions were required, and that it would enter into the agreement immediately if chosen.

The project team is also requesting the establishment of a preliminary Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) not to exceed \$3,465,182.00.

9. Angela Jackson, Director of Finance, submitted the following item which resulted in this action:

1) Approved a Request for Budget Amendment #2-22(FYE 6-30-11), in the amount of \$99,000.00, to purchase 15 mowers for Refuse Control. The motion carried 4-1. Commissioner Edmondson opposed. He voiced that he was not against purchasing the mowers, but his opposition was based on budget considerations.

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Commissioner Edmondson questioned if the approved \$99,000.00 for mowers would come from the General Fund and if this request constituted a non-budgeted item. Chairman Bell answered yes. Commissioner Edmondson asked if the county actually had \$99,000.00 in the General Fund to finance this purchase, considering the county's \$10 million budget shortfall in the next six (6) weeks. Chairman Bell replied yes. Commissioner Edmondson next asked if these mowers would be bought as replacements or as purchases to facilitate another shift. Chairman Bell stated that these purchases were primarily replacements. He had traveled with Warden Frank Taylor Smith to inspect the lawn mowers that were last purchased. Per Chairman Bell, the last lawn mowers purchased were basically for yard use, whereas the new purchases are for heavy-duty use. The prisoners have run the existing lawn mowers for thousands of hours and the wheels have literally been run off them. Two (2) mechanics are constantly trying to keep them pieced together. Commissioner Edmondson acknowledged that Chairman Bell had sold him on the idea; however, he wanted to ensure that the county budget could satisfy this purchase amount. Chairman Bell responded that this purchase is an investment. Commissioner Edmondson understood it was an investment but, with the anticipated budget shortfall, he hoped the county was not planning to raise taxes or something similar. Chairman Bell rebutted that he did not know what the Board was planning to do, but Refuse Control really needed to purchase these mowers. Commissioner Edmondson asked if Chairman Bell knew this purchase would really impact the budget since these monies will be taken out of the General Fund. Chairman Bell surmised that a \$99,000.00 purchase would not impact a \$167 million budget that much.

10. Approved Resolution 2011-60 authorizing Clayton County to enter into an agreement with the Organized Crime Drug Task Force for the reimbursement of overtime pay not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the Clayton County Police detective detailed to the Task Force. Vote unanimous.

[NOTE: Chairman Bell asked for Board consensus to have the rest of the resolutions read together and voted on at once. The Board consented to do so.]

11. Approved Resolution 2011-61 to allow the International Campaign for Victory Over Violence, Inc. to host its annual "Victory Over Violence" celebration at the Clayton County International Park. Vote unanimous.

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12. Approved Resolution 2011-62 authorizing Clayton County to accept a United States Flag from Ladies Auxiliary – Veterans of Foreign War, Post 5080, Inc. to be erected at the Morrow/Lake City Park in Clayton County. Vote unanimous.

13. Approved Resolution 2011-63 authorizing Clayton County to participate in the “World’s Largest Swimming Lesson” event to be conducted at the Carl Rhodenizer Recreation Center, Steve Lundquist Aquatic Center, and Virginia Gray Recreation Center. Vote unanimous.

14. Approved Resolution 2011-64 authorizing the acceptance of vehicles to be assigned to the Sheriff’s Department fleet in a manner as will be in the best interest of the County. Vote unanimous.

15. Approved Resolution 2011-65 to allow the Atlanta Rattlers Semi-Professional Football Team to play games at the Lee Street Football Field. Vote unanimous.

Chief Staff Attorney Michael Smith noted that an Executive Session had been requested following the business meeting.

Commissioner Singleton gave kudos to the Parks & Recreation Department, led by Director Detrick Stanford, for sponsoring last weekend’s fantastic activities – especially the Wild Azalea Festival. She expressed her enjoyment while attending the festival by texting people to come and bring their kids for some fun. These planned events were really great and made everyone in the county proud.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Wayne Madden announced he will either run as a candidate for the Chairman’s position or Vice-Chairman Ralph’s commission district in the next election. He understood there were some issues in this county and planned to make himself available for one of the two (2) seats. According to Mr. Madden, there was no doubt he could do a “good job.” Not only was he a county resident, but he has been in law school too. He loved Clayton County and promised that some changes would be made. With these changes, Mr. Madden concluded this county will be “the place to be.”

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2. Chuck Ware stated he had attended a meeting last night conducted by Commissioner Singleton, and it was a very good meeting. ***NOTE: At this point, Commissioner Singleton interjected that the East Point/College Park Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. facilitated this “town hall” meeting.*** Mr. Ware reiterated that Commissioner Singleton held a very good meeting and spoke eloquently about why she helped raise the county’s senior center membership fees. He just wished Commissioner Singleton would make the same comments in a meeting with the seniors. This would be a good move because it is what the seniors have requested, and he did not think this request would be too much to ask of her. His real purpose tonight was to give Chief Staff Attorney Michael Smith a letter that he wanted to distribute to the Board as well. Mr. Ware then read the contents of the letter he had given Mr. Smith:

Good Evening, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

As a citizen and resident of Clayton County, Georgia, I hereby request copies of all expenses incurred by Commissioner Wole Ralph in his travel to Amsterdam, Holland with Clayton County’s Director of Economic Development.

In addition, I would like a report outlining the purpose of the trip and any progress made during and since that trip which would benefit Clayton County, Georgia. Looking forward to receiving a timely response from you.

Thank you very much.

Charles Ware

Mr. Ware next admitted that he had been to Amsterdam, Holland and the only thing it is noted for is Needle Park, a red light district. This park is a “legitimate” area and all of the drug addicts are “consolidated” in one part of it...(NOTE: At this point in the meeting, Clerk Haywood alerted Mr. Ware that his time to speak before the Board had expired).